

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

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DRAFTED BY EA:PCHABIB:JNP

APPROVED BY EA:PCHABIB

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R 120012Z MAY 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

UNCLAS STATE 115899

FOR AMBASSADOR SNEIDER FROM HABIB

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, KS

SUBJECT: NEW EMBASSY RESIDENCE

REF: SEOUL 3415

I AM DELIGHTED THAT THE NEW RESIDENCE WILL BE DEDICATED
NEXT WEEK. I APPRECIATE YOUR SUGGESTION AND REQUEST
THAT YOU READ THE FOLLOWING PERSONAL MESSAGE FROM ME
AT THE OPENING CEREMONY:

BEGIN QUOTE:

FROM ITS VERY FIRST DAYS, THE AMERICAN OFFICIAL PRESENCE
IN KOREA HAS BEEN HOUSED ON THE SAME SPOT IN A RESIDENCE
OF UNIQUE KOREAN CHARACTER. FOR NINETY YEARS THAT
HARMONIOUS ENVIRONMENT WAS CONDUCIVE TO KOREAN-AMERICAN
UNDERSTANDING.

WHEN THE FORCES OF NATURE DICTATED THAT THE OLD RESIDENCE
COULD NO LONGER STAND, IT WAS CLEAR THAT IT COULD ONLY
BE REPLACED BY A NEW ENVIRONMENT OF EQUAL KOREAN
CHARACTER AND TRADITION. IT IS WITH GREAT JOY THAT
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WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO CREATE THIS BEAUTIFUL REPRESENTATION

OF THE FINEST IN TRADITIONAL KOREAN ARCHITECTURE. IT IS

A WORTHY SUCCESSOR TO ITS PREDECESSOR AND IS DESIGNED
TO CEMENT CLOSE CULTURAL AND HUMAN RELATIONS BETWEEN
AMERICANS AND KOREANS.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL THOSE WHO HAD A PART IN BUILDING
THIS BI-NATIONAL TREASURE. EACH ARCHITECT, EACH
ENGINEER, EACH ARTISAN, EACH STONE-MASON, EACH CRAFTSMAN,
CAN TAKE PRIDE IN THEIR WORK AND LASTING PLEASURE IN THE
BEAUTY THEY HAVE CREATED. END QUOTE KISSINGER

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